

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-4710

Attachment # 1
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February 15, 2005

Commissioners:
WILLIAM C. PROCTOR, JR.
District 1

JANE G. SAULS
District 2

DAN WINCHESTER
District 3

TONY GRIPPA
District 4

BOB RACKLEFF
District 5

ED DEPUY
At-Large

CLIFF THAELL
At-Large

PARIWEZ ALAM
County Administrator
(850) 488-9962

HERBERT W.A. THIELE
County Attorney
(850) 487-1008

Anita Favors
City Manager
300 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Ms. Favors:

Anita

I am writing to apprise you of the recent action of the Board of County Commissioners to issue an RFP for County Growth Management functions (Attachment #1) and to seek your cooperation in fully exploring what is a unique opportunity to achieve real efficiencies, greatly improve customer service and promote high quality development countywide.

As you may know, I recently brought a workshop item to the Board which reviewed and evaluated current and incipient CIP projects. One of these projects was the renovation of our Growth Management offices on Tharpe Street. At that time, the Board decided to forgo the renovations of this facility and to issue an RFP for the purchase of alternative space for these functions.

Several Commissioners have aptly identified this as an opportunity to further the City's and County's shared goal of greatly improving growth management functions in our community. Chattanooga's Development Resource Center serves as a model of the possibilities that exist to accommodate city and county permitting, environmental review, water quality, land use, planning, GIS, and many other related functions in a shared facility. This facility has become an invaluable "one-stop-shop" resource to the community. It has also become an important venue where elected officials, planning commissioners, developers and citizens from all walks of life come together to achieve positive development, whether it is focusing on areas such as their downtown, or refining and improving broad regional planning initiatives.

When you consider that we are a County with one City, a joint City/County Planning Department, and single GIS entity, it becomes obvious that we indeed have many of the pieces already in place to take the next step in promoting and facilitating the highest quality and most efficient communitywide development and planning.

I am asking that you review the attached the RFP which was approved by the Board on February 8, 2005 and will soon be advertised. It is my hope that we can work together to fully explore the possibilities that this opportunity presents. To be clear, I am asking that you join me in taking this opportunity to pursue the concept of a "Development Resource Center" to include County and City Growth Management functions, City/County Planning Department, our common GIS department, and as many other development and planning support functions as possible, in a shared facility established jointly, funded equitably and operated cooperatively.

I am anxious to hear your initial reaction to this idea and that of the City Commission.

Respectfully,



Parwez Alam,
County Administrator

cc:
Board of County Commissioners
City Commission

Attachment